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WILLIAM W. CONE'S

HISTORICAL SKETCH

—OF—

Shawnee County, Kansas,

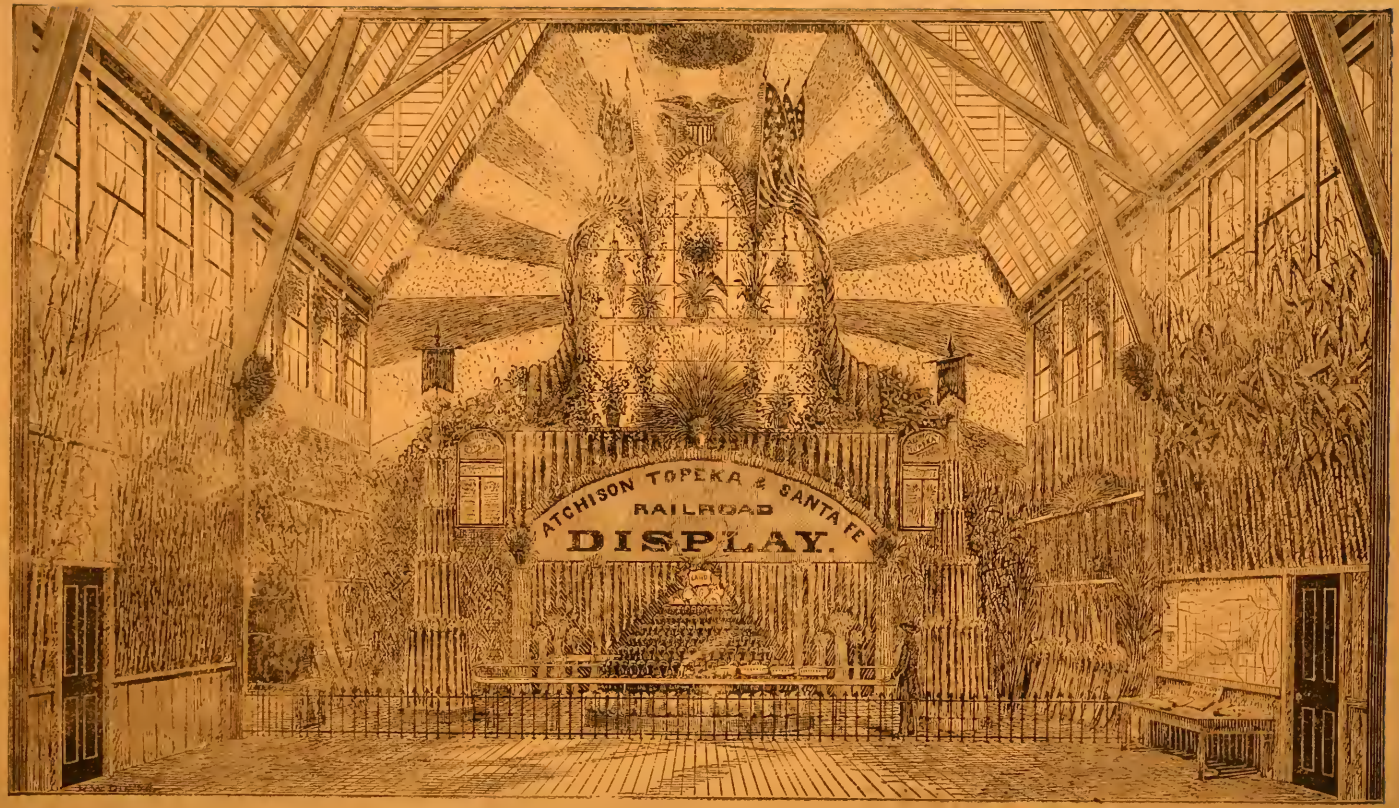
—INCLUDING—

AN ACCOUNT OF THE IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE EARLY SETTLEMENT OF EACH TOWNSHIP.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

TOPEKA, KANSAS:
THE KANSAS FARMER PRINTING HOUSE.

1877.


ATCHISON TOPEKA & SANTA FE
RAILROAD
DISPLAY.

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MAP OF SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS.

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BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA.

PREFACE.

Perfect reliability, although eminently essential and greatly to be desired in a work of this character, is very rarely reached. Ordinarily, men do not record passing events, and, after a lapse of twenty or thirty years, cannot recall them with any degree of certainty.

The incidents, however, in the border life of the early settlers of Shawnee county, were of such a stirring nature that they have made a deep and lasting impression upon the minds of these pioneers, and their statements as contained in this pamphlet are justly entitled to all the credit due them.

In the preparation of this work, I have endeavored, by a personal interview with each old settler, by a careful inquiry, by a close comparison of dates, figures, names, localities and events, to arrive at the *facts*, and so collect and condense them that they might be used by some historian in the future as a foundation upon which to build an elaborate and extended history of Shawnee County.

In this enterprise, I have no individual preferences, no axe to grind, and, as I have resided but a few years in the county, no local prejudices to overcome.

I here extend my thanks to the large army of old settlers who have greatly assisted me by furnishing the data upon which this little work has been built.

I am also especially indebted for valuable aid in this direction to the following gentlemen: Major L. J. Beam, F. M. Stall, Esq., Hon. Alfred Gray, Dan'l Horne, Esq., Col. C. K. Holliday, F. W. Giles, Esq., Dr. D. Dickinson, Enoch Chase, Esq., Hon. H. D. McMeekin, Judge F. G. Adams, Hon. W. W. Ross, Hon. John Martin, and Prof. J. B. Dunbar.

I desire also to give the proper credit to the following works for material gathered from their pages for use in this sketch, viz: Chapman's History of Kansas (1854); F. W. Giles' Historical Sketch of Shawnee County (1876); Judge W. S. Hoaglin's History of Jackson County (1876); Rev. Isaac McCoy's History of Baptist Indian Mission (1840); Parkman's Great West; Greeley's Overland Journey; History of Major Long's Explorations (1820); Report of Special Committee on Kansas Troubles (1856); Wilder's Annals of Kansas; Information for Kansas Immigrants, by Thos. Webb (1856); Kansas Magazine; Holloway's History of Kansas; Memoirs of W. T. Sherman, and Topeka *Commonwealth*.

I record the names here of the few surviving white settlers of 1847–48. Without their assistance, very much of this work could not have been written: Col. T. N. Stinson, Tecumseh; Louis Catalon, North Topeka; Ephriam Kennedy, Silver Lake; Sidney W. Smith, Topeka; Clement Chattlo, Topeka; Mrs. Sarah Baxter, Williamsport; Mrs. Mary Busbee, Topeka; and Mrs. Lydia Baubiun.

Hoping that this little pamphlet may be the means of preserving at least some of the historical events in the early settlement of Shawnee County, I have the honor to remain,

Yours truly,

W. W. CONE.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

TOPEKA TOWNSHIP.

The first farm cultivated by a white man in this township, was the north half of 25-11-15, by Clement Shattio, a Frenchman who came here from Uniontown, Kan., November 15, 1852. The farm was then owned by Alexander Bushman, a half-breed Shawnee Indian. The farm is situated one mile northwest of Topeka on the south bank of the river. Mr. Shattio was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1800. He came to Uniontown, June 15, 1848. He was married here to Ann Davis (colored) in 1850. He lived on the Bushman farm until August 15, 1854 when he bought out a Shawnee Indian's claim on the Shunganunga, located on the N. E. of 14-12-15, where he has ever since resided. His wife was born in Palestine, Crawford county, Illinois, about the year 1817. At the age of ten years she was stolen from her parents, who were free, and taken to Missouri, which was then a slave State. After being sold many times, she found herself in May, 1848, in Uniontown. She bought her freedom in 1849. A truthful account of her varied experience as a slave for over twenty years, would exceed in interest many works of fiction upon a similar subject.

On the 5th day of May, 1854, Horatio Cox, from Missouri, settled on the N. E. of 1-12-16. This farm is located at the crossing of Deer Creek, on the Tecumseh and Topeka road, two miles east of the latter place. He sold the farm the same fall to Mr. John Long.

On the first day of June, 1854, Mr. Anthony A. Ward bought a farm in this township of Joseph James, commonly called Joe Jim, a Kaw half-breed. Mr. Ward moved his family here September 1, 1854, and died in 1871. The farm joins the city of Topeka on the west, and is located on the S. W. of 30-11-16.

Robert Matthews settled July 15, on the S. E. of 33-11-16. He built a blacksmith shop that fall, which was the first in the township. Within a few days two Frenchmen settled here, viz.: Mr. J. Jondron selected his claim on the N. E. of 32-11-16, now owned by the heirs of the late Jacob Klien. Mr. A. Berringer selected the N. E. 33-11-16, now owned by J. W. Farnsworth. Isaac Edwards and D. Chilson arrived here on the 25th of July. Edwards settled on the S. W. of 27-11-16, now owned by B. F. Dawson. Mr Chilson settled on the N. W. of 34-11-16. About eight years afterwards Edwards was confined in the city jail for the murder of a colored man. He was found one morning by the jailor, dead, having been hung during the night by a mob. The city jail, at this time, was located on the northwest corner of Fourth and Quincy street.

Gilbert Billard, Charles Sardeiu and Fred. Vascalders arrived here August 28, 1854. Mr. Billard settled on the N. W of 28-11-16, where he died April 29, 1870. Mr. Sardieu settled on the S. W. of 28-11-16, where he yet resides. Mr. Vascalders settled on the N. E. of 28-11-16.

Thos. Warren and J. R. Warren, from Kentucky, and H. McConnell and Jas. McConnell, from Missouri, came here October 10, 1854. J. R. Warren settled on the N. E. of 9-12-16, where he yet resides. H. McConnell located on the S. E. of 9-12-16. Jas. McConnell settled on the S. W. of 15-13-16. Mr. Thos. Warren did not take a claim, but lived with his son, J. R. Warren. He died here on the 15th day of December, 1874, at the advanced age of 104 years. In the House Journal for 1870, we find the following mention of this remarkable gentleman, who on his 100th birthday visited the House of Representatives while in session:

"Mr. Kellogg moved that in token of respect to Thos. Warren, the 100th anniversary of whose birthday was this day being celebrated by himself and friends, the Topeka band be requested to play, and that the Speaker *pro tem* then welcome him to this Hall, and tender him the respect of the House of Representatives; which motion prevailed. After music by the band, Mr. John Guthrie, Speaker *pro tem*, addressed Mr. Warren as follows:

"'Father Warren: It is my pleasant duty, as Speaker *pro tem* of this body, to welcome you to this Hall. In consideration of your extraordinary age, and the number of years you have been a resident of the State, the Representatives deem it a duty and an honor to extend to you the courtesies of this House. They join with me in heartily congratulating you on the rare fortune you have been blessed with in attaining your 100th birthday. It is a great honor and distinction to arrive at so great an age. In the name of the Representatives, I ask you to address them.'

"Whereupon Mr. Warren briefly replied, stating that he had this day attained the age of one hundred years; that he was born in Amherst county, Virginia, February 14, 1770; moved to Kentucky in 1785; from thence to Missouri in 1845, and finally to Kansas in 1854, having lived in the State sixteen years. He also gave some reminiscences of his life, and closed by thanking the members for the honors shown him."

The first bridge across the Shunganunga was built by the Papan brothers in 1851. It was located ¾ of a mile east of the Santa Fe depot, and about 300 feet east of the dwelling house on the Allen estate. It was a toll-bridge for the first two years. Louis Rivard was the first person to collect toll. He was succeeded in the fall of 1853 by Gerard C. t'Hooft. Papan's bridge and ferry received a large amount of the overland California travel.

On the 14th day of August, 1854, Wm. R. Boggs, from Howard county, Missouri, arrived here, and bought out an Indian's claim on the N. E. of 26-11-15. The State Insane Asylum is located on this farm. Wm. Pickerel settled on the S. E. of 6-12-16, on the 17th day of October, 1854. Phillip Briggs settled on the N. W. of 5-12-16, on the 20th day of October, 1854. John Parkenson settled on the N. E. of 11-12-15, October 18th. Wm. Griffenstein settled on the farm now owned by Mr. Slayton, about the 1st of November, 1854. John T. Adams located on the S. W. of 10-12-16, on the 15th day of November, 1854.

Chas. Robinson, Agent of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, and C. K. Holliday, both residents of Lawrence, Kansas, started from that town about the middle of November, 1854, to select town sites for Eastern colonies. The present site of Topeka was one of three selected at this time by them. After they returned home, Rev. Michael Hummer and another gentleman laid out a town and called it Fremont, on, or near, the above site, as selected by Messrs. Robinson & Holliday. On the 29th of November, 1854, four gentlemen, viz.: Enoch Chase, M. C. Dickey, J. B. Chase, and Geo. Davis, under the advice of Mr. Robinson, settled on the

Topeka town site, with the understanding that if they did so, that Robinson, as Agent of the N. E. E. A. S., would send emigration to them. The party, while at work the next day, were ordered off by the members of the Fremont Town Company, but they refused to go. Fremont was located a short distance east of the present residence of D. L. Lakin. It must be borne in mind that the land had not been sectionized at this time.

We copy the following from a pamphlet entitled: "Information for Kanzas Immigrants," published in 1856 by the New England Emigrant Aid Society.

"The site of Topeka was selected by the Agents of this Company, and upon their recommendation, certain individuals of the 'Fifth party' here drove their stakes on the 29th day of November, 1854. They were soon followed by members of the 'Sixth party.'"

On the 4th of December, 1854, a party of nine men, who had just arrived in Lawrence, hearing of this new town enterprise, sent a committee to examine the locality and report. The party consisted of the following gentlemen: Daniel Horne, — Fry, W. Giles, L. G. Cleveland, S. A. Clark, F. A. Crowe, W. C. Linniker, T. G. Thornton, Jonas E. Greenwood, and Timothy McIntire. The first four were the Committee, and C. K. Holliday came with them. They were well pleased with the prospects of the new town, and reported to the Company, who soon after arrived.

A Town Company was soon formed, and emigrants continued to arrive during the winter.

The prospects of the rival Town Company never were very encouraging. Some time in November Dr. Noble Barron, from St. Louis, Missouri, arrived, and took an active part in forwarding the enterprise. The members of the Company soon got into a quarrel among themselves, which resulted, about the 1st of February, 1855, in the buildings in Fremont being torn down and the people rendered homeless and houseless. Assistance was received from other parts of the county, and all trace of the rival town was quickly obliterated.

The Rev. Mr. Hummer was knocked down by Robert Edwards, and dangerously injured, and it is supposed that it was at this time that the deed and other papers belonging to him and relating to the town site, were stolen from him. He was carried out onto the prairie near the Shunganunga southwest of Topeka, and there left.

Topeka, however, continued to thrive. We have the names of only a few, besides the above, who arrived in December, 1854: Jas. F. Merriam, of Vermont, arrived December 7th; Jas. Hickey arrived December 12th; Freeman Foster and Robt. L. Mitchell arrived December 20th, and Dr. S. A. Martin arrived December 25th. John Long arrived about this time.

The following is believed to be nearly a complete list of persons who settled in the Township in 1855:

John Ritchie, J. C. Miller, W. W. Ross, J. C. Jordan, John Armstrong, H. W. Curtis, Charles Farnsworth, L. W. Horne, R. A. Randlett, O. C. Nichols, S. D. Cornwell, Frank Dawson, C. A. Sexton, Henry Cowles, John Perrin Rev. Henry Burgess, Chas. Frasier, C. A. Dexter, W. H. Weymouth, Daole Sayers, Ephriam Herriott, Horatio Fletcher, Samuel Herriott, Daniel Bonta H. Higgins, Johnston Thomas, King Smith, Antoine Bernier, H. Terrell, A. H. Barnard, Robert Todd, Dr. M. A. Campdoras, Henry Griffin, C. Durapt, Isaac Rentrew, J. Willetts, J. R. Jones, C. D. Howard, L. H. Wentworth, Robert Gilbert, Daniel Sheridan, James Goodridge, C. C. K. Garvey, F. L. Crane, James Chadwick, Dean Chadwick, C. C. Leonard, C. L. Terrel, Moses Dudley, J. Orcutt, Wm. Scales, H. P. Waters, James K. Bunker, James McNamee, J. F. Cumings, Israel Zimmerman, Loring Farnsworth, E. Seagraves, Abner Doane, A. M. Lewis, Guilford Dudley, John R. Lewis, Geo. F. Boyd, D. Minlum, J. D. Clarkson, Jas. Taggart, W. H. Weymouth, L. C. Wilmarth, A. G. Thompson, W. F. Creitz, G. W. Hathaway, H. H. Wentworth, Gabriel Wright, James Disney, Moses Hubbard, P. R. Hubbard, Eugene Dumez, C. N. Gray, P. O. Connor, E. S. Parker, Jesse Stone, O. H. Drinkwater, Samuel Hall, Leonard Wendell, A. F. Whiting, W. E. Bowker, S. N. Frasier, M. C. Martin, Wm. P. Thompson, David H. Moore, W. W. Henderson, Wm. Gibbons, M. K. Smith, A. F. Hartwell, David Smith Chas. L. Wilbur, G. B. French, E. Trask, Aug. Roberts, H. C. Young, Nelson Young, James Cowles, R. M. Luce, F. T. Tucker, Richard Gustine, Henry P. Waters.

Space will not permit of an individual notice of those settlers who arrived after 1855. The political history of this county in the three following years, however, should be written by some competent and impartial writer, who would give each party equal space, and an equal chance to state their individual views upon the political questions of those early days.

The first store in Topeka was kept by J. W. Jones, early in the spring of 1855. He sold out soon afterward to J. Willetts. The building is yet standing on Kansas Avenue, West Side, between Second and Third streets.

The first tinshop and hardware store was kept by J. C. Miller. He made the first tinware *ever made in the State*, early in April, 1855, on the street in front of his present residence. The first cabinet work was made by R. L. Mitchell, in the spring of 1855. His shop was situated on the N. W. corner of Sixth and Harrison streets. The first brick made in the county was made by L. W. Horne, about two miles N. E. of town on the farm now owned by Mr. Luddington. Guilford Dudley started the first broker's office in 1859. The first banking house was opened by F. W. Giles in 1864. Enoch Chase kept the first boarding house in the spring of 1855.

The first officers of the city were elected January 28th, 1858, and were as follows: Loring Farnsworth, Mayor; A. F. Whitney, A. F. Housel, G. S. Gordon, J. G. Bunker and Jas. Hickey, Councilmen. They were qualified before J. C. Miller, Justice of the Peace, at the first meeting of the Board, held February 11th, 1858. At this meeting A. F. Whiting was elected Chairman of the Board.

The first birth was a son of Israel Zimmerman, in the summer of 1855.

The first school was taught in the summer of 1855 by Miss Sarah Harland. The first school-house was built in 1856 by the New England Emigrant Aid Society. It was built on the S. W. corner of Fifth and Harrison street. The first newspaper was published by E. C. K. Garvey & Co.; the first issue being July 4th, 1855. The name of the paper was *The Kansas Free-man*.

The first church organization was the Methodist, organized March 31st, 1855, by the Rev. Jas. S. Griffin; Rev A. Still, Presiding Elder..

SOLDIER TOWNSHIP.

The first white settlement of which we have any knowledge, within the present limits of this Township, with the possible exception of some Indian traders, was made in the spring of 1840, by three brothers by the name of Papan, viz: Joseph, Alcan, and Louis. Another brother by the name of Emberle, came the next year. These French gentlemen were born in St. Louis Missouri, their father, Louis Papan, having moved there from Montreal, Canada, in the latter part of the last century.

As this was the first white settlement made in the county, it would be well to examine into the Kaw Indian history and find what induced these Frenchmen to locate here.

It is not known how long the Kaw, or Kansas, Indians have resided here. The earliest record we have of them was made by Father Jas. Marquette, who was sent by the French government, in the year 1673, to discover the upper Mississippi. He found the Canzas Indians near the banks of the Missouri river. They were possibly here hundreds of years before that time. The first time, however, that the United States government discovered and made a treaty with them, was October 28th, 1815. The next treaty was made June 3d, 1825. At this time they ceded to the United States a large part of the land they occupied in eastern Kansas, commencing their reservation twenty leagues west of the mouth of the Kaw river.

The tract was upon both sides of the river, thirty miles in width, and extending west for quantity. The east line of the reservation was about three miles west of the present site of Topeka.

Besides this general reservation, there was a special reservation made for twenty-three Kaw half-breeds, of a strip of land on the north side of the Kaw river, one mile square for each half-breed, commencing at the east line of their general reservation and extending down the river for quantity. The following are the names of the first seven half-breeds: "Adel and Clement, two children of Clement; Josette, Julia, Pelagie and Victoire, children of Louis Gonvil, and Marie, daughter of Baptiste Golvin."

Their allotments of land were in the order given, Adel receiving No. 1, Clement No. 2, etc. The father of the first two children was a Frenchman, who had for many years been interpreter and trader among the Kaw Indians. He died at the old Kaw village near Silver Lake, about the year 1835. The daughter, Adel, married Moses Bellemore, a French gentleman, who moved here about the year 1845. They were married in Kansas City, Missouri.

Louis Gonvil, the father of the four half-breed girls above referred to, was also for many years a trader among the Kaws. In an account of Major Long's expedition to the Rocky Mountains in 1820, a Mr. Gunville is mentioned as a trader at the Kaw village. It is possible that this was the Louis Gonvil referred to in the treaty of 1825.

At an early age Josette Gonvil went to live with the family of Frank G. Chouteau, an Indian interpreter at Kansas City, Missouri. She was married here in the summer of 1839 to Joseph Papan. Julie Gonvil was married here soon after to Ahcan Papan. In the following spring the two families, together with Louis Papan, moved on to their reservation. They, however, for a number of years, lived near each other, about a mile west of where North Topeka now stands. A Frenchman by the name of Franceur de Aubrey, came here in 1842 and married Pelagie Gonvil. The next year Louis Papan married Julie, the remaining daughter.

The Papan Bros. started the first ferry across the Kaw river in 1842. At this time there was some travel between Ft. Leavenworth, Mexico, and the Southwest, viz: soldiers, trappers, surveyors, Government officers, and traders, enough to justify them in starting the ferry. In the flood of 1844 all their houses and boats were washed away, and they all went back to Kansas City to live. They, however, remained there but a short time, and in the year 1846 they were all living here again. During the flood, Major Cumings, Paymaster U. S. Army, wishing to cross from the south to the north side of the Kaw river, stepped into a canoe at about the corner of Topeka Avenue and Second street, and was rowed by an Indian from there to the bluffs, near the present residence of J. M. Harding, in this Township, the water being twenty feet deep over the ground where North Topeka now stands. One of the Papans lived in a house on the island just above the bridge. This house stood the flood until the water came above the eaves and then was washed away. This island, at that time, was part of the main land.

The Papan Bros. did a flourishing ferry business from 1848 to 1853, as the Oregon and California travel was very heavy about this time. A log house built by them in 1848, is yet standing, about one mile northwest of North Topeka.

In the year 1848 quite a number of white men moved into what is now called Soldier Township. I have the names of only two of them, viz: Louis Catalon, a nephew of the Papans, who resides here yet, and Jas. McFerson. The latter settled on the N. E. of 18-11-16. Fred. Swice and Geo. L. Young settled here in 1850.

The following persons came in 1854: Jas Kuykendall, John Cunningham, R. J. Fulton, H. D. McMeekin, Perry Fleshman, W. S. Kuykendall, John B. Chapman, D. Milne, James A. Gray, G. P. Dorris, Jas. M. Hand and Mr. Tipton. G. P. Dorris built a saw-mill on his farm the same season.

A part of the territory now called Soldier Township, was from September 4th, 1855, to February, 1859, in Calhoun county. From the latter date until March 1st, 1860, it was in Jackson county. The county seat of Calhoun county was held at Calhoun, a town situated in the extreme southeast part of Soldier Township. The town site was selected in 1854 by Jas. Kuykendall. The Town Company consisted of Perry Fleshman, G. P. Dorris, J. M. Hand and Jas. Kuykendall. The first court was held here September 24th, 1854, Judge Lecompte presiding. The first officers were Jas. Kuykendall, Probate Judge; Geo. L. Young, Justice; J. T. Wilson, Sheriff; W. S. Kuykendall, County Clerk; R. J. Fulton, Constable; Perry Fleshman, Assessor.

The town site of Indianola was selected and laid out by H. D. McMeekin, in November, 1854. The name was suggested to him by Col. Fountleroy, of the U. S. Army, who had been quartered for some time at Indianola, Texas. This was a town of considerable importance for a number of years, and a large mercantile business was yearly transacted here. Mr. McMeekin bought the land for the town site, of a half-breed by the name of Louis View.

The town site of Rochester was located on the S. E. of 7 11-16. It was selected by J. Butler Chapman, author of a "History of Kansas," published in 1854. The Town Company was formed in August, 1854, and consisted of J. B. Chapman, Jas. A. Gray, and Fred. Swice. It was first called Delaware City. It was soon, however, changed to Whitfield City, afterwards to Kansopolis, and latterly to Rochester. In describing this city and its surroundings, Chapman says in his History that "No place in the Territory can have more public access to roads. "The site was selected for the establishment of public schools." He was evidently imbued with the idea that it was treason to tell the truth about Kansas, for he says: "No man is considered a hero unless he can describe Kansas as a paradise."

Among those who came in 1855, were Vincent Cohe, Sam'l Lockhart, C. C. Leonard, J. F. Cailloz, E. Bollotte, T. Bruno, A. Colomb, E. Chambourniere, H. Roberty, Aime Malespine, J. and H. Seal, J. E. Thompson, and Thos. Jenner.

The following came in 1856: G. Cumings, Jake Johnson, Jas. M. Harding, Jos. Middaugh, J. W. Price, Ezekiel Marple, Wm. Owen.

W. T. Sherman arrived here early in the spring of 1859, and settled on the S. W. of 4-11-16. In his Memoirs, page 141, in speaking about his partnership in the law business at Leavenworth, he says: "Our business continued to grow, but as the income hardly sufficed for three such expensive personages, I concluded to look for something more lucrative, and during the spring undertook, for the Hon. Thos. Ewing, of Ohio, to open a farm on a large tract of land (1,100 acres) on Indian Creek, forty miles west of Leavenworth, for the benefit of his grand nephew, Henry Clark, and his grand niece, Mrs. Walker. These arrived in the spring, by which time I had caused to be erected a small frame house, a barn, and fencing for 100 acres. This helped to pass off time, but afforded little profit." He removed to Leavenworth in the fall. The readers of this article hardly need to be told that this was the same W. T. Sherman who in after years became General of the United States Armies. The writer, however, remembers him as a Brigadier General under whom he had the honor to serve in the first Bull Run fight.

WILLIAMSPORT TOWNSHIP.

The first settlement was made by the Rev. Robert Simerwell, August 13th, 1851. This noted missionary was born in Ireland May 1st, 1796. He came to this country in 1813, and lived at Philadelphia until 1824, when he was sent by the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society as a missionary among the Pottawatomie Indians then living at Carey, Michigan. He was married March 17th, 1825, to Miss Fannie Goodridge, who came here from Kentucky as a missionary in 1823. They moved in 1833 to the Shawnee Baptist Mission, at Johnson County, Kansas. In December, 1837, they moved to the Pottawatomie Mission, near the present site of Osawatomie, Kansas. From there he moved to the Baptist Mission in this County, in the spring of 1848. From this time until 1854, he was teaching and preaching among the Miami and Pottawatomie Indians. Before entering into missionary labor, he had learned the blacksmith trade. The knowledge of this business then acquired, was of great use and service to him at each Mission. He built the first blacksmith shop in the township. It was built in the fall of 1851. The old log cabin that he built for a residence, the same year, is yet standing on the old homestead, now owned by Mr. John Carter.

During his leisure moments, while a missionary, Mr. Simerwell translated the New Testament into the Pottawatomie language. Through the kindness of his daughters, Mrs. Isaac Baxter and Mrs. John Carter, both residents of the township, I have been permitted to examine some of his original translations in manuscript. I here insert the first verse of the first chapter of Matthew:

"Mis in r kin Hesas Knyst mis o ta nin Tapit oquisin Epinram oquis in kr tr o mil om sin o tin o soinr."

I also insert a few sentences, copied, as above, from his original manuscript:

"Ton a pee chi ca shi an?" Where did you go? "Ke ki oge Inge she ah" I went to Ft. Wayne. "Ne tosh shah pa kiso." The horse swims. "Kis qua wah." Too much noise.

Mr. Simerwell died Dec. 11, 1868, beloved and respected by all who knew him. Both of his daughters, whose names have been given above, were for many years teachers among the Pottawatomies and Miamies.

Joseph Drenan settled on the N. E. of 27-12-15, Aug. 14th, 1854. Mr. Wm. Simerwell arrived the same day. On the 26th of August, two cousins, each bearing the name of Wm. Matney, arrived and made settlement. One of them, who we will call Wm. Matney, Sen., came from Virginia, and settled on Sec. 30-13-16. Wm. Matney, Jun., came from Missouri, and settled on the N. W. of 28-13-16, where he yet resides. Wm. Coker, also from Missouri, settled here Sept. 16th, on the S. W. of 28-13-16, where he yet resides. Dr. J. D Woods, from Kentucky, located on the S. E. 33-13-15, on the 15th day of December, 1854. Joseph Herald and Dr. Clayborne Lykins settled in the township at the same time. A Mr. Steward moved here soon after this. He froze to death on the prairie during that winter. He was found, two weeks afterwards, about a mile south of the present residence of Dr. Jessie D. Woods.

The following arrived in 1855: Wm. Yocum, J. Babcock, J. Carrol, H. M. Tharp, Isaac Baxter, Samuel Allen, Joseph Lykins, Robert Gault, Robert Todd, Wm. Armstrong, and Mr. Zimmerman.

The following settled in 1856: Jas. Young and H. K. Winans. There was a large emigration here the next year, but we have been able to get only the following names: Seth Todd, Edgar Winans, Alfred Winans, D. Kilby, Blakely & Bennett, R. Buttles, Chester Thomas, Sen., Dan'l, Fred and Cyrus Fultz, Rev Mr. Monfort, Dr. A. J. Huntoon, J. Nelson, L. Buttles, Joel Huntoon, and J. M Waugh.

Joseph Herald and wife were the parents of the first child born in the Township—born Feb. 1855. Richard Steward and Polly Matney were married the next year, this being the first wedding. The first death in this Township was that of Mrs. Joseph Herald, Feb. 1855.

The first school-house was built by subscription. It was built in 1857. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Jas. Gillpatrick, Dec 16th, 1854, at the house of the Rev. Robert Simerwell.

The town site of Wakarusa was laid out in 1858, by Messrs. Mills & Smith. The Town Company that laid out Williamsport was organized in Williamsport, Penn. There was twenty-five members, but only three came and made improvements, viz.: Dr. A. J. Huntoon, T. U. Thompson, and Joel Huntoon. This was in 1857.

A town site was selected and laid out by a Mr. Rule in 1856. It was located 1½ miles east of Wakarusa Station.

AUBURN TOWNSHIP.

A Mission was established by the Catholics, in the fall of 1847, for the Pottawatomie Indians, at the junction of the East, Middle and West branches of the Wakarusa river. This Mission was under the charge of Father J. B. Hoeken. About twenty log cabins were built here by them.

In the spring following the Indians found that they had located by mistake on Shawnee lands, and as they could not draw their annuity until they were on their own land, they moved to the north side of the Kaw river, near the center of the reservation, and established a Mission there. This Mission has since been known as St. Mary's.

The Shawnees immediately moved into the deserted cabins and remained there six years.

On the 12th day of August, 1854, Mr. J. W. Brown

purchased of the Shawnees some of these cabins, and their right to a part of the land. The portion purchased by him was the N. E. of 23-13-16, upon which land he has ever since resided.

Mr. Brown was born in Belmont county, Ohio, in 1829. He came to the Shawnee Mission, in what is now Johnson county, Kansas, in 1849. He was employed here by the Methodist Missionary Society, as a blacksmith for the Indians at this Mission. In 1851 he moved to Uniontown, Kansas, where he was employed by the Government. He worked here at his trade for three years, and in 1854 moved to his present home, as above stated.

A party of seven men arrived here from Jackson county, Missouri, on the 11th day of August, 1854. The next day they each selected for himself a claim, as follows: E. Carriger N. E. 31-13-15; W. F. Johnston, S. ½ 14-13-15; M. A. Reed, S. W. 31-13-15; J. J. Webb, N. W. 25-13-15; B. B. Jones, N. E. 25 13 15; Eli Snyder, S. E. 30-13 15; L. T. Cook, ——— .

Webb died soon after, and Johnston moved, in a few years, to Silver Lake. Carriger built a saw-mill on his claim during the next winter, which was the first in the Township. The first house was built on the claim of Eli Snyder in the fall of 1854. These men lived for some time in the deserted Indian cabins, and the collection of cabins was named Brownsville, in honor of the first actual white settler.

It was here in April, 1855, that the *first Sabbath School in the State* was organized. There were ten scholars, and the library consisted of ten dollars' worth of books. Samuel Cavender was Superintendent.

The *first Methodist class in the State* was organized at Brownsville in the house of W. F. Johnston, in the fall of 1854, by the Rev. J. S. Griffin. Mr. Griffin was appointed to the "Wakarusa Mission" in the summer of 1854, by the Methodist Conference of Missouri. His circuit was very large, as he had twenty preaching places. His appointments were four weeks apart. Mr. Griffin resides at present in Manhattan in this State.

The first school taught in the county, was in one of these Indian cabins in April, 1855. Mr. A. Preston, Teacher.

The city of Auburn was laid out in March, 1856. The Town Company consisted, at this time, of J. W. Brown, M. C. Dickey, Loring Farnsworth, and Henry Fox. The first house was built of logs by the Town Company, in March. It was used as a hotel, and situated on lot 101, Washington Avenue. The first school house was built of concrete, two stories high. The first church in the Township was built by the Methodists, at this place, in 1856, Rev. J. S. Griffin, Pastor.

The first Postmaster was the Rev. James Gillpatrick, who was also the first Baptist Preacher. The first brickkiln was built by Barney Williams in the spring of 1856. Within two months there were three others in active operation. The first and only paper ever published here was the *Auburn Docket*, in 1860, the first issue being in July of that year. By reading a copy of this paper, we find that the publisher, D. B. Emmert, was willing to take, as subscription to his paper, "county scrip at seventy-five cents on the dollar; township scrip at ninety cents, and city scrip at par!"

Among the names of the early settlers, we find the name of James Moran, who arrived here October 20th, 1854, and James Turner, who settled here December 2d of same year.

In the year 1855 the following persons arrived: Rev. Jas. Gillpatrick, Deacon Geo. Holt, Henry Fox, M. C. Dickey, C. Gillpatrick, Loring Farnsworth, and Samuel Cavender. Capt. Price, W. S. Hibbard and Daniel Haney arrived in 1856. There was quite a large emigration here in 1857, but no effort has been made to get a complete list of arrivals. Among those arriving that year were L. J. Atwood, B. Ingrund, and P. S. Spangler. The first Trustee was A. H. Hale, and the first Justice of the Peace was W. F. Johnston.

Auburn is situated fifteen miles S. W. of Topeka, two miles north of the Osage county line, and seven miles from the west line of Wabaunsee county.

MISSION TOWNSHIP.

The first white settler in the township was Jonas Lykins. He moved from Osawatomie in the fall of 1847, and arrived here November 15th of same year. He settled on the N. E. of 17-12-15. The farm is located one-half mile northeast of the residence of ex-State Senator Wm. Sims. Mr. Lykins built a cabin that fall, and early in the spring commenced to make other improvements, such as fencing, etc. He broke twenty acres of land that season and raised a fair crop of corn. He married an educated Pottawatomie woman in 1846. Mrs Lykins greatly assisted the Rev. Robert Simerwell in the translation of the scriptures into the Pottawatomie language Mr. Lykins resided on this farm twelve years, and died in 1859. Many of the old settlers remember him very distinctly. He was a brother of Dr. Johnston Lykins, the noted Indian missionary.

Dr. Lykins entered into Missionary labors at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, in 1822. In the spring of 1848 he built, under the direction of Rev. Isaac McCoy, the first Baptist mission in the county. It was a large, double log house, situated on the N. W. of 32-11-15. Some of the remains of this old mission are yet to be seen. During that year and the next, he built a two-story stone building, 40x80 feet, to be used as a mission. The building is now in a fair state of preservation, and is used by the present owner, R. I. Lee, Esq., as a stable. The mission farm consisted of 320 acres. A part of this only was cultivated. At one time, one of the Superintendents, Rev. John Jackson, cultivated 60 acres. Soon after the first mission was built in the spring of 1848, the Rev. Robert Simerwell and daughter Sarah, (now Mrs. Baxter,) and Miss Elizabeth McCoy, a niece of Isaac McCoy, came here and organized and taught the first Indian school. The wife of Louis Ogee, of Silver Lake, was one of their first pupils. While at this Mission, Mr. Simerwell, besides attending to his other duties, found time to work at his trade of blacksmith. He built here the first blacksmith shop in the township, in the summer of 1848.

We are unable to give a complete and full account of the subsequent business of the Baptist Mission. The following were, in the order given, the Superintendents: Mr. Saunders, Mr. Alexander, Rev. John Jackson, and the Rev. John Jones. Mr. Jackson was here from 1854 to 1858. He, perhaps, of all the Superintendents, done the most towards making the institution self-sustaining. During the time Mr Jackson was here, his daughter, the wife of the Rev. J. G. Miller, taught the school. Dr. D. L. Croysdale came here in 1853 as a governmental physician. The Mission closed about the year 1859.

Abram B. Burnett, a chief of the Pottawatomies and a nephew of the great hereditary chief Topenapee, moved into the township in March, 1848. In 1842 Mr. Burnett married Miss Mary Knoblock, a native of Germany. During the year 1848 Mr. Burnett broke about forty acres of prairie on his farm, using three yoke of oxen. Mr. Burnett died here in

1870. Mrs. Burnett, (now Mrs. Buzbee) yet resides on the farm.

In the spring of 1848 a Catholic mission was established on the hill just north of the Baptist Mission, under the charge of Father J. B. Hoken. In 1860 it was moved down to near the bank of the river, a distance of half a mile. While here it was under the charge of Father Maurice Guilland. Father Guilland was born in France in 1815, and died at St. Mary's Mission, Pottawatomie county, Kansas, August 12, 1877

Mr. Sidney W. Smith moved to Uniontown, in this county, in 1848. In March, 1852, he moved into this township. He located on the S. E. of 30-11-15, just northwest of the Mission farm. He established a ferry to cross the Kaw river, the same year, which he run for eight years. The crossing of the ferry on the south bank, was on the S. W. of 30-11-15. Mr. Smith resides here yet. He was born in Orange county, Vermont, in 1812. He removed to Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1838, where he remained for ten years previous to his coming into this county.

Hiram C. Covill, from Ohio, located, on the 25th day of December, 1854, on the S. E. of 27-11-15. He was killed in the Price raid in 1861. Mrs. Covill yet resides on the farm.

John Doty settled on the S. E. of 10-12-15, January 20, 1855. J. C. Young located on the S. E. of 27-12-15, the same year.

Amos Trott, G. G. Gage, W. D. Paul, J. C. French, W. W. Lewis, and Mr. Scudder, arrived and settled in the township in 1856.

Jas. Brewer and Jas Swan arrived in 1857. The former settled on the S. E. of 3-11-15, the latter on the S. W. of 27-12-15.

John McComb and Rev. J. G. Miller arrived in 1859. The former located on the N. E. of 30-12-15: the latter on the N. W. of 26-12-14.

Until August 4, 1868, two-thirds of the township was included in the Pottawatomie Reservation.

TECUMSEH TOWNSHIP.

The first white settlement was made by Col. T. N. Stinson, who settled on Sec 1-12-16, on the 20th day of March, 1853. He had, however, employed a man to break sixty acres of prairie and fence it, the previous year, so that when he moved, his farm was in good condition for immediate cultivation.

Mr. Stinson was born on the 14th of April, 1818, in Preble county, Ohio. When but four years old, his parents moved to Ft. Wayne, Ind. They both died there in 1823. At the age of twenty Mr. Stinson moved to Livingston county, Illinois. He remained here until the spring of 1843, when he moved to Westport, Missouri. The next year was spent at his trade as a blacksmith, and assisting his brother who was in the mercantile business at this place. The next three years he was employed as a traveling agent among the Indians, by Messrs. Simpson & Hunter, merchants at Westport. Early in the spring of 1848 he removed to Uniontown, in this county, where he built the first building and entered into business as a trader on his own account. In the year 1850 he married Miss Julia Bushman, and in 1852 moved on to the Burnett farm, where he remained until he removed to his present residence in 1853.

The next to settle here was a party of men from Missouri, who arrived May 5th, 1854. They were on the road to California with a large drove of cattle, but, hearing that the territory would soon be opened for settlement, concluded to locate here, and selected claims as follows: J. K. Waysman, N. E. 32-11-17, where he yet resides. A. D. M. Hand selected the N. W. 32-11-17 H. Walker located on the S. E. 32-11-17. Albert Byler settled on the N. W. 33-11-17. Joshua Sartain selected the N. E. of 33-11-17, and Nathaniel Hedrick located on the N. W. 34-11-17. The following persons arrived here June 1st, 1854, and selected claims: David Copeland located on the S. W. of 32-11-17. James Herron selected the S. W. of 31-11-17. Reuben Low the S. E. of 33-11-17. Rev. J. B. Stateler the N. E. of 31-11-17. John Horner, Thornton B. Hays and Francis Grassmuck arrived at same time.

On the 25th day of July Robert Edwards took a claim on the S. E. of 27-11-16. The farm is now owned by John Parr. J. C. Niecum arrived here October 17, and bought out Walker's claim. Mr. Niecum resides here yet. The following arrived October 25: Jehiel Tyler, D. Uptegraph and John Morris. The last two, built a saw-mill that winter, which was the first in the township. James W. Small arrived Nov. 10th, 1854. Wm. Vaughn and B. Sublette arrived Nov. 20th, and built, in Dec., the first store. Dr D. W. Hunter arrived at the same time.

Osburn Naylor, Rev. Charles Jordan and J. W Stephenson arrived two days afterwards. Mr. Naylor settled on the S. W. of 35-11-16. The first Methodist Episcopal Conference Quarterly Meeting *ever held in the State* was held at Mr. Naylor's house in the summer of 1855. The Rev. Dr. Still, Presiding Elder, and the Rev. Jas. Griffin, Missionary in charge. Mr. Naylor died here in 1864. Mr. Jordan settled on the N. W. of 35-11-16, where he died in 1852 Mr. Stephenson sett'ed on the N. E. of 34-11-16, where he yet resides.

Judge Rush Elmore arrived here Dec. 1st, Charles Stevenson on the 15th, and H. J. Strickler on the 25th Stevenson committed suicide on his farm in 1867.

We have been able to get the following names of settlers who arrived in 1855: Eli Hopkins, W. Y. Roberts, Wm. A. Stewart, Wm. Hook, S. Ripple, Jos. Weaver, Benj. Newsom, Capt. E. Allen, J. Reed, Joseph Molton, Wm. Riley, T. Strother, Jesse Rumsey, Adam Bowers, John Bowers, Gus. Vaughn, Geo. Rumsey, Joseph Allen, A. Lovelace, Samuel Ackland, Isaac Roberts, H. Carmichael, C. C. Antrim, John Martin, W. O. Yeager, B. Fogle, Kenzie Stofield, V. Rush, Edward Hoogland, Eli Stofield, Rev. Mr. Piper, Dr. Snow, J. M. Pherson, N. Shadley, Wm. Shadley, Benj. Castleman, A. Delap, A. Imes, Erastus Moffit, Wm. Frost, R. Carmichael, Rev. Paul Shepard, A. D. Reed, John T. Lawrence, O. Moffit, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Ellis, Wm. Ireland, John Scott, Wm. Jones, Henry Canfield.

The city of Tecumseh was laid out in August, 1854. Part of the town site (80 acres) was owned by Thos. Stinson; the balance (240 acres) was preempted for town purposes. The following were the original proprietors and projectors of the enterprise: Col. T. N. Stinson; Judge Rush Elmore, from Alabama: Judge S. W. Johnson from Ohio; A. H. Reeder, Territorial Governor, from Penn.; Samuel H. Woodson and Abram Comingo, from Mo.; Albert Elmore, from Alabama, Dr. Jas. M. Hunter, from Mo.; J. W. Whitfield, from Tennessee, and Col. A J. Isaacs, Territorial Attorney General. The survey was made by C. C. Spalding, Aug. 15th, 1854.

her house, in the fall of 1869. The original proprietors of the town site were M. B. Baublen and A. T. Thomas.

ROSSVILLE TOWNSHIP.

Of the first white settlers who came into the territory now called Rossville Township, in 1847-48, none are left, and as no record of their early settlement or personal history has ever been written, it is extremely difficult to get any exact and reliable information concerning them.

The following, among others, settled here in the above mentioned years: John Barsho, Stephen McPherson, Wm. Martell, Alexander Rodd, Frances Bargeron, Anthony Tacier and Wm. Nassecau. It is probable that some of those who settled first in Silver Lake, soon after moved into this Township. A toll bridge was built over Cross Creek at a point about half a mile above the town site, soon after they came, by Bergeron, Tacier and Laton.

The first store was probably started as early as 1853, by Wm. Dyer. Col. Boone, (a grandson of the celebrated Daniel Boone) in connection with Mr. Dahoney, opened a store here a year or two afterward.

James Baldan arrived in 1855. He yet resides here.

The following arrived here in 1858: Geo. James, Geo. Stackhouse, and Cyrus Higginbotham. Dr. R. S. Gabby settled here soon after. He was the first Justice. He was appointed by Gov. Crawford in 1867.

The first school was taught by Mrs. Gibson Metty. The first term was held in a small log cabin near the creek. There were about fifteen scholars in attendance, about half of them being half-breeds. It was a subscription school. Mrs. Metty was succeeded by Mrs. Gurnsey, and she in turn by Miss Jane Woodward.

Jas. W. Dahoney was the first Postmaster appointed in 1862. The post office was named in honor of W. W. Ross, then Pottawatomie Indian Agent. The village and township afterward adopted the same name. The first Township election was held April, 1871. At this election Samuel Beal was elected Trustee, Jas. Cass, Treasurer, and Frank C. Saunders, Clerk.

The original proprietors of Rossville were A. C. Sherman, Col. G. W. Veale, H. Wilson, and F. Johnson.

A ferry was started in 1849 by Chas. Baublen and Louis Ogee, and run for three or four years, from near the mouth of Cross creek to a point directly opposite, and now in Wabaunsee county. It was a pole ferry, and probably the first ferry on the river above Papans.

The Pottawatomie Indians came onto their reservation in this State in 1847, and remained here about twenty-five years. Among the chiefs were Half-Day-La-Framboise, Mazha, and Weeweesa. Among the Agents we find the names of Lee, Murphy, W. W. Ross, and L. R. Palmer. Their average term of service was about four years. The yearly payments were about $80,000. These payments were made at Uniontown from 1848 to 1859, and at Cross creek, now called Rossville, from that time until they removed to the Indian Territory. The number of Indians varied considerably at the different payments, but there were probably 2,300 when their allotments of land were made.

SHAWNEE COUNTY.

The members of the first Territorial Legislature elected to represent the territory now called Shawnee county, were H. J. Strickler as Member of the Council, (now called Senate) and Dr. D. L. Croysdale, Member of the House of Representatives. They were elected March 30th, 1855.

Mr. Strickler was born in Page county, Virginia, in the year 1831. He came to Tecumseh, in this county, December 25th, 1854. He was appointed the first Adjutant General of the Territory August 31st, 1855, which office he held for three years. In 1858 he was appointed the first Auditor-General of the Territory. He served six years as Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, and one year as its President. In 1861 he was married to Miss Hattie Stanton, and died July 31st, 1873.

We can give but little information in regard to Dr. Croysdale. At the time he was elected Member of the House, he was a resident governmental Physician at the Baptist Mission in this County. He had been living there about a year previous to his election.

Gov. Reeder declared this election, so far as this District was concerned, void, and ordered another election. Dr. Jesse D. Woods was elected to the Senate, or Council, and Col. C. K. Holliday to the House. They were, however, not considered entitled to seats by the different branches of the Legislature, it being at that time under the control of the pro-slavery party.

Dr. Woods was born in Christian county, Kentucky. He settled in what is now called Williamsport Township, December 15th, 1854. He has resided ever since upon the same farm where he first located.

Col. Holliday was born in Carlisle county, Pennsylvania, in the year 1832. Arrived in Kansas, October, 1854. He was the first President of the Topeka Association, elected in 1854, and has held the office continually to the present time. He was the first Justice of the Peace appointed in 1855, a Member of the first Constitutional Convention, same year, and Member of the Council or Senate, session of 1857. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor under the Leavenworth Constitution, in 1858. Mr. Holliday has been elected as Mayor of Topeka four times. He was elected State Senator in 1862, and Member of the House in 1866. Mr. Holliday was Adjutant-General during the last two years of the war, and was elected Member of the House in 1872. He was President of the Santa Fe R. R., and also of the Lawrence & Topeka R. R. He resides here yet.

The first Member of the House of Representatives, after the County was organized, was Chas. S. McKinney. He was elected in 1856, and served in the session of 1857.

Hon. John Martin was the first County Clerk, and by virtue of the office first Recorder of Deeds. Mr. Martin was born in Wilson County, Tennessee, November 12th, 1833. He arrived at the Shawnee Mission April 1st, 1855, and at Tecumseh April 8th, 1855. He lived at Tecumseh until February, 1861, and then moved to Topeka, where he has ever since resided. The first business Mr. Martin did as Recorder, was to record the deed given by R. W. Custard, August 6th, 1855, to Wm. Carter. The deed was given "for one-seventh of 320 acres of land situated in the forks of the Tecumseh and California roads, including the 'Big Springs.'" Consideration, $100. Witnessed by E. Banning and W. M. Harper. This deed was recorded Saturday, February 9th, 1856.

Thos. N. Stinson was the first Treasurer, appointed in 1855. During his term of service there was $125 collected, but it never reached his hands.

The first County Commissioners were Edward Hoogland and Wm. Yocum, elected by the first Territorial Legislature in the summer of 1855. Wm. O. Yeager was the first Probate Judge. The county was organized in September, 1855. John Horner was the first Tax Assessor; appointed October 15th, 1855. Thornton B. Hayes was the first census-taker; appointed by Governor Reeder January 22d, 1855. The census

was taken in January and February, and returns made the 10th of February, 1855.

D. W. Hunter was the first Superintendent of Public Buildings; appointed in 1855. The first Judges of Election were John Horner, Rev. J. B. Stateler, and Anthony A. Ward. The election was for Delegate to Congress, and held at Col. Stinson's house in Tecumseh, November 29th, 1854. At this election J. W. Whitfield was elected Delegate.

G. W. Berry was the first Sheriff, but he did not qualify, and John Horner was appointed September 24th, 1855. The first meeting of the County Commissioners was held September 17th, 1855.

The following is a copy of the records in the Probate Judge's office, of the first business done by the first Probate Judge:

"At a Probate Court held in the village of Tecumseh, in the county of Shawnee, on the 24th day of September, A. D. 1855, before W. O. Yeager, Probate Judge, on the day and at the date aforesaid, Wesley Garrett, a creditor of Preston Huffaker, late of Shawnee county, deceased, appeared, and asked that letters of administration be granted to him on the estate of the deceased creditor." The bond was $400, and the bondsmen were Duke W. Hunter and Thos. N. Stinson. The bond was approved and letters of administration granted to him.

It appears from the records in the office of the Register of Deeds, that the first business done by Hon. John Martin, as Recorder, was on the 9th day of February, 1856. Ten months previous, F. W. Giles, "of his own unadvised volition and at his individual expense, procured books, and for a nominal fee kept a record therein of such transfers of inchoate title as had passed between the members of the Topeka Association and others." This act and these records were legalized by a special act of the Legislature in the winter of 1858-59.

The first business of Mr. Giles, in the capacity of Recorder, as recorded on these books, was on the 7th day of April, 1855. It was a transfer of land from W. C. Linniker to J. T. Jones, of lot No. 8, block 54, O. S., now N. E. corner Harrison and Sixth, city of Topeka. Consideration, $30, and witnessed by Thos. G. Thornton.

Mr. Giles was born in New Hampshire. He arrived here December 4th, 1854. He was the first Postmaster of Topeka. As the P. O. building, together with all the records and books were burnt in 1869, we have no information as to the first business of the office. Mr. Giles estimates the amount of business done the first year as $250. The first post office was near the S. E. corner of Second and Quincy street.

The first Senator elected after the State was organized, was H. W. Farnsworth. He was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, October 13, 1816. Entered Williams College in Mass., in 1836, and graduated in 1840. He arrived in Topeka May 6th, 1856. Mr. Farnsworth served one term as Mayor and four years as Postmaster of Topeka. He was Agent for a number of years for the Kaw Indians. He and others built the first saw and grist-mill within the city limits, the New England Emigrant Aid Society, however, having previously erected a mill at or near where Mr. Sweet's ice-house now stands.

The first Representative elected after the State was organized, was W. E. Bowker. He was born at Munson, Maine, April 5th, 1829. He came to Kansas in 1855. He was Treasurer of the County for four years. Mr. Bowker died in California March 5th, 1874.

Derivation of Names of Streams and Places in Shawnee County.

TOPEKA.—According to Prof. John B. Dunbar, who is, undoubtedly, the best authority on Indian dialect in the Western country, this name is derived from three Indian words, viz: "To," potato, (the wild kind) "pe," good, and "o kae," to dig. These words have exactly the same meaning among the following tribes of Indians: Otoes, Omahas, Iowas, and Kaws. A literal translation then would be, "A good place to dig potatoes."

The wild potato was, in early times, very plenty along the banks of the Kaw river, and the Indians who lived to the north of here, came down, in seasons of scarcity, to this river to dig potatoes, and they exclaimed, "Topeka!" or, "This is a good place to dig potatoes."

Col. C. K. Holliday received the following explanation from White Plume, Chief of the Kaw tribe of Indians. Long before the name Kansas was given to the river by the government, the Indians used to call it Topeka, on account of the immense quantity of wild potatoes which grew along its banks, or, in the poetic language of these outlandish "Kaws," "the river upon whose banks grew the wild potato plant."

Holloway, in his History of Kansas, says that "Topeka is of Indian origin, signifying potato, or, as the wags have it, 'small potatoes.'" These wild potatoes were very plenty in the bottom, east of the city, when the founders of the town arrived.

WAKARUSA.—In an account of Major Long's Expedition of 1820, published by Dr. Edwin James, botanist to the Expedition, we find the name of this stream spelt Warreruza. On a map of R. R. Surveys published by the Government in 1855, we find it spelt Wahkarussi. Dr. Jesse D. Wood, who has resided upon its banks for the past twenty-three years, states that in the Shawnee language the word means, "The river of big weeds." The Kaw definition, as given by Col. Holliday, received from White Plume, was, "The river upon whose banks grew the wild milkweed." The common Kaw definition has no foundation in fact.

SHUNGANUNGA.—In J. B. Chapman's History of Kansas, published in 1854, we find this name divided as follows: Shunga Nunga. This is an innovation which will have but few followers or admirers. The Kaw definition, as given by Col. Holliday, is, "The race-course." Mr. E. R. Kennedy states that the proper definition is, "The race-horse," and we find in a book published in 1856, by Thos. Webb, Secretary of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, entitled "Information for Kanzas Immigrants," that the name of the stream is called "Shung munga, or Red Horse creek."

HALF-DAY CREEK.—Named in honor of Half-Day, a prominent chief of the Pottawatomie tribe.

MISSION CREEK.—A name given to a stream in the western part of the county by the settlers of 1848, from the fact that they found, upon their arrival here, the remains of an old Kaw Mission on, or near its banks, and located about a mile from its mouth.

SOLDIER CREEK—Derived its name from its being the usual camping ground of soldiers passing from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Riley and the Southwest.

BLACKSMITH CREEK.—When the early settlers of 1848 arrived here, they found the remains of an old Kaw blacksmith shop on the banks of this creek, near its mouth. To this fact the creek owes its name.

TECUMSEH—was named in honor of the noted Shawnee Indian chief. Tecumseh was born in 1770 at Piqua, an Indian village in Clark county, Ohio. He removed to White river, in Indiana, in 1798. From here he removed in 1808 to the Tippecanoe river, near the

Wabash. He strongly opposed the sale and cession of the lands to the whites. Tecumseh was the principal chief among the Indians in the battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. He was killed in the battle of the Thames.

The following streams derive their names from early settlers, who settled near them: Stinson, Martin, Hascall, Colby, Linn, Veser, etc.

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The First White Children Born in the State.

A gentleman has resided in the city of Topeka for the past seven years, who has the credit, and we believe justly, of being the first white person born in the State, or what was then the Territory of Kansas. Col. Alexander S. Johnson was born July 11th, 1832, at the Methodist Indian Mission, in what is now Johnson County, Kansas. His father, the Rev. Thos. Johnson, was for many years a Missionary at that Mission.

Mrs. Elizabeth Carter, of Williamsport Township, in this County, was undoubtedly the first female born in the Territory. She was born at the Baptist Shawnee Mission, near the above Methodist Mission, December 24th, 1835. Her father, the Rev. Robert Simerwell, was also Missionary for many years among the different tribes of Indians.

was taken in January and February, and returns made the 10th of February, 1855.

D. W. Hunter was the first Superintendent of Public Buildings; appointed in 1855. The first Judges of Election were John Horner, Rev. J. B. Stateler, and Anthony A. Ward. The election was for Delegate to Congress, and held at Col. Stinson's house in Tecumseh, November 29th, 1854. At this election J. W. Whitfield was elected Delegate.

G. W. Berry was the first Sheriff, but he did not qualify, and John Horner was appointed September 24th, 1855. The first meeting of the County Commissioners was held September 17th, 1855.

The following is a copy of the records in the Probate Judge's office, of the first business done by the first Probate Judge:

"At a Probate Court held in the village of Tecumseh, in the county of Shawnee, on the 24th day of September, A. D. 1855, before W. O. Yeager, Probate Judge, on the day and at the date aforesaid, Wesley Garrett, a creditor of Preston Huffaker, late of Shawnee county, deceased, appeared, and asked that letters of administration be granted to him on the estate of the deceased creditor." The bond was $400, and the bondsmen were Duke W. Hunter and Thos. N. Stinson. The bond was approved and letters of administration granted to him.

It appears from the records in the office of the Register of Deeds, that the first business done by Hon. John Martin, as Recorder, was on the 9th day of February, 1856. Ten months previous, F. W. Giles, "of his own unadvised volition and at his individual expense, procured books, and for a nominal fee kept a record therein of such transfers of inchoate title as had passed between the members of the Topeka Association and others." This act and these records were legalized by a special act of the Legislature in the winter of 1858-59.

The first business of Mr. Giles, in the capacity of Recorder, as recorded on these books, was on the 7th day of April, 1855. It was a transfer of land from W. C. Limliker to J. T. Jones, of lot No. 8, block 54, O. S., now N. E. corner Harrison and Sixth, city of Topeka. Consideration, $30, and witnessed by Thos. G. Thornton.

Mr. Giles was born in New Hampshire. He arrived here December 4th, 1854. He was the first Postmaster of Topeka. As the P. O. building, together with all the records and books were burnt in 1869, we have no information as to the first business of the office. Mr. Giles estimates the amount of business done the first year as $250. The first post office was near the S. E. corner of Second and Quincy street.

The first Senator elected after the State was organized, was H. W. Farnsworth. He was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, October 13, 1816. Entered Williams College in Mass., in 1836, and graduated in 1840. He arrived in Topeka May 6th, 1856. Mr. Farnsworth served one term as Mayor and four years as Postmaster of Topeka. He was Agent for a number of years for the Kaw Indians. He and others built the first saw and grist-mill within the city limits, the New England Emigrant Aid Society, however, having previously erected a mill at or near where Mr. Sweet's ice-house now stands.

The first Representative elected after the State was organized, was W. E. Bowker. He was born at Munson, Maine, April 5th, 1829. He came to Kansas in 1855. He was Treasurer of the County for four years. Mr. Bowker died in California March 5th, 1874.

Derivation of Names of Streams and Places in Shawnee County.

TOPEKA.—According to Prof. John B. Dunbar, who is, undoubtedly, the best authority on Indian dialect in the Western country, this name is derived from three Indian words, viz: "To," potato, (the wild kind) "pe," good, and "o ka," to dig. These words have exactly the same meaning among the following tribes of Indians: Otoes, Omahas, Iowas, and Kaws. A literal translation then would be, "A good place to dig potatoes."

The wild potato was, in early times, very plenty along the banks of the Kaw river, and the Indians who lived to the north of here, came down, in seasons of scarcity, to this river to dig potatoes, and they exclaimed, "Topeka!" or, "This is a good place to dig potatoes."

Col. C. K. Holliday received the following explanation from White Plume, Chief of the Kaw tribe of Indians. Long before the name Kansas was given to the river by the government, the Indians used to call it Topeka, on account of the immense quantity of wild potatoes which grew along its banks, or, in the poetic language of these outlandish "Kaws," "the river upon whose banks grew the wild potato plant."

Holloway, in his History of Kansas, says that "Topeka is of Indian origin, signifying potato, or, as the wags have it, 'small potatoes.'" These wild potatoes were very plenty in the bottom, east of the city, when the founders of the town arrived.

WAKARUSA.—In an account of Major Long's Expedition of 1820, published by Dr. Edwin James, botanist to the Expedition, we find the name of this stream spelt Warreruza. On a map of R. R. Surveys published by the Government in 1855, we find it spelt Wahkarussi. Dr. Jesse D. Wood, who has resided upon its banks for the past twenty-three years, states that in the Shawnee language the word means, "The river of big weeds." The Kaw definition, as given by Col. Holliday, received from White Plume, was, "The river upon whose banks grew the wild milkweed." The common squaw definition has no foundation in fact.

SHUNGANUNGA.—In J. B. Chapman's History of Kansas, published in 1854, we find this name divided as follows: Shunga Nunga. This is an innovation which will have but few followers or admirers. The Kaw definition, as given by Col. Holliday, is, "The race-course." Mr. E. R. Kennedy states that the proper definition is, "The race-horse," and we find in a book published in 1856, by Thos. Webb, Secretary of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, entitled "Information for Kanzas Immigrants," that the name of the stream is called "Shungmunga, or Red Horse creek."

HALF-DAY CREEK.—Named in honor of Half-Day, a prominent chief of the Pottawatomie tribe.

MISSION CREEK.—A name given to a stream in the western part of the county by the settlers of 1848, from the fact that they found, upon their arrival here, the remains of an old Kaw Mission on, or near its banks, and located about a mile from its mouth.

SOLDIER CREEK—Derived its name from its being the usual camping ground of soldiers passing from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Riley and the Southwest.

BLACKSMITH CREEK.—When the early settlers of 1848 arrived here, they found the remains of an old Kaw blacksmith shop on the banks of this creek, near its mouth. To this fact the creek owes its name.

TECUMSEH—was named in honor of the noted Shawnee Indian chief. Tecumseh was born in 1770 at Piqua, an Indian village in Clark county, Ohio. He removed to White river, in Indiana, in 1798. From here he removed in 1808 to the Tippecanoe river, near the

Wabash. He strongly opposed the sale and cession of the lands to the whites. Tecumseh was the principal chief among the Indians in the battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. He was killed in the battle of the Thames.

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All communications to this department should be addressed to

D. L. LAKIN, Commissioner,

TOPEKA, KANSAS.

JUN 26 1970